

## **ENVIRONMENTAL & STATISTICAL CONSULTANTS**

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## Memorandum

VIA EMAIL

DATE:

October 12, 2011

TO:

Paul Corey Greg Zupkus

BNE Energy Inc.

FR:

David Tidhar WEST, Inc.

WES

RE:

Summary — On-going Field Studies and Reporting for Pre-construction Wildlife Surveys at the Colebrook North Wind Project, Litchfield County, Connecticut

On-going pre-construction bird and bat studies for Colebrook North include the following:

Spring and Fall Raptor Migration Surveys – observational surveys for migrating raptors during the peak migration periods identified for Connecticut, based on publicly available sources of information (Hawk Migration Association of North America). Raptor migration patterns observed at Colebrook South are believed to be similar to those experienced at Colebrook North due to the close proximity of the areas and the lack of significant topographic features which might serve to concentrate migrating raptors. In addition, there is a general lack of a suitable observation site within the Colebrook North project areas which would provide an adequate viewshed to complete the surveys. Therefore, this survey is being conducted at a single observation point located adjacent to the Colebrook South meteorological tower and which is surveyed once per week for approximately 8 hours. Spring surveys were completed during April 2011 and Fall surveys from late August through early to late-October depending on recorded activity.

**Spring, Summer and Fall Songbird Breeding and Migration Surveys** - observational and auditory surveys for birds, particularly passerines, conducted at 19 points arrayed within Colebrook North are surveyed between 30-min before surrise to no later than 10:30 am approximately once per week during the months of April, May, June and September 2011.

**Bat Acoustic Monitoring** – bat acoustic monitoring consisting of Anabat and Songmeter SM2 surveys is completed to document bat activity and gather information on species composition. Two fixed stations for Anabats are arrayed at Colebrook North and collect data on bat activity between dusk and dawn daily between approximately April 15 – October 31, 2011. Both stations are ground-based – one is located within the forest clearing used for the sodar sampling station in the NE portion of the project area and one is located at one proposed turbine location (T1). One Songmeter SM2 is alternated approximately every other week between Colebrook South and Colebrook North during this period to collect information on bat species identification. The Colebrook North station is located within the sodar forest clearing.

Reporting Schedule – a single pre-construction report will be prepared for the aforementioned studies 60 days following completion of field studies. Field studies would end October 31, 2011, therefore the report is anticipated to be completed by December 31, 2011. The report would include field methods, results and a discussion section in a format consistent with the Journal of Wildlife Management.